

Message Text

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TAGS: OTRA, OVIP
SUBJECT: DEPTY SECRETARY'S PROJECTED TRIP TO AFRICA

REF: (A) STATE 295652 (B) YAOUNDE 5271 Q (C) STATE 262631
(D) YAOUNDE 4762 (E) STATE 235764 (F) YAOUNDE 4267

1. AS INDICATED REFTELS B, D, AND F, I HAVE FOR SOME TIME BEEN RECOMMENDING THAT A HIGH ADMINISTRATION OFFICIAL VISIT CAMEROON. I THINK VISIT BY DEPUTY SECRETARY EARLY NEXT YEAR WOULD, IN LIGHT RECENT HIGH LEVEL VISITORS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES (REFTELS B AND D) BE EXTREMELY HELPFUL IN INDICATING TO GURC OUR CONTINUING INTEREST AND SUPPORT OF THE MODERATES. THEREFOE, I ENTHUSIASTICALLY ENDORSE PROJECTED TRIP TO AFRICA BY DEPTY SECRETARY AND AM CONFIDENT GRUC WOULD WELCOME VISIT BY HIGH LEVEL USG OFFICIAL.

2. I UNDERSTAND THAT AHIDJO WAS NUMBER FOUR ON THE LIST OF HEADS OF STATE INVITED TO VISIT THE US FROM AFRICA THIS YEAR AND THE FIRST THREE (OBASANJO, NYERERE, AND BONGO) PLUS NETO MADE IT. IF PLANNING FOR NEXT YEAR'S OFFICIAL VISITS IS FAR ENOUGH ADVANCED, HST WOULD BE A VERY NICE GRACE NOTE IF DEPUTY SECRETARY COULD EXTEND AN INVITATION TO PRESIDENT AHIDJO TO VISIT US.

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EM WHILE
LGRTH CAMEROON LIVESTOCK AND RANGE MANAGEMENT PROJECT AGREEMENT MAY NOT BE READY FOR SIGNING (REFTEL A) THERE ARE A NUMBER OF PROJECT AGREEMENT AMENDMENTS WHICH THE DEPTUY SECRETARY COULD SIGN AT A CEREMONY WITH A SUITABLY HIGH GURC OFFICIAL. THESE INCLUDE UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR HEALTHXSERVICES - CUSS- (\$1,730,000) PRACTICAL TRAINING FOR HEALTH EDUCATORS

(\$500,000), NORTH CAMEROON SEED MULTIPLICATION (\$400,000), SAHEL FOOD CROP PROTECTION (\$275,000) AND LOW INCOME HOUSING (\$100,000), FOR A TOTAL OF \$3,005,000. IN ADDITION, THERE IS AN OUTSIDE POSSIBILITY THAT EITHER THE COORDINATION CENTER AT MAROUA OR A TRAINING CENTER AT DANA (BOTH IN NORTH) OF THE CENTERS FOR TRAINING FARM FAMILIES WILL BE READY FOR INAUGURATION.

4. WITH RESPECT TO VISITS OUTSIDE YAOUNDE, DAY OR TWO CAN USEFULLY BE SPENT IN EITHER THE NORTH, THE BAMENDA OR DOUALA AREAS. IN THE NORTH THERE ARE A NUMBER OF AID RELATED PROJECTS (NORTH CAMEROON SEED MULTIPLICATION, CENTERS FOR TRAINING FARM FAMILIES AND PROPOSED DAM SITES FOR THE MANDARA MOUNTAINS WATER RESOURCES. ANGLOPHONE FORMER WEST CAMEROON OFFERS ATTRACTIVE ALTERNATIVE IN THE BAMENDA AREA WHERE HEIFER PROJECT INTERNATIONAL HAS DAIRY HERD AND SMALL FARM ANIMAL STATION; THERE IS USAID CONTRACT EMPLOYEE WORKING WITH CREDIT UNIONS; MANY PCV'S INVOLVED IN COOPERATIVES, FISH FARMS AND TEACHING; AND A NUMBER OF SELF-HELP PROJECTS. THE DOUALA-BUEA-VICTORIA AREA COMBINES VISITS FRANCOPHONE-ANGLOPHONE LOCALITIES. DOUALA IS ECONOMIC AND TRANSPORT CENTER, THERE SEVERAL PAN-AFRICAN INSTITUTE FOR DEVELOPMENT SITES IN DOUALA AND BUEA, AND NUMBER OF PCV'S AND MISSIONARIES IN BUEA/VICTORIA (ONE HOUR'S DRIVE FROM DOUALA).

5. WHICH PLACE TO VISIT MAY BE IN PART DICTATED BY WHERE PRESIDENT AHIDJO IS AT THE TIME. ASSUMING HE IS IN THE COUNTRY
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(AND WE HAVE NO WORD THAT HE WILL BE TRAVELLING AT THAT TIME), AHIDJO IS USUALLY EITHER IN YAOUNDE OR GAROUA (HIS HOMETOWN). PRESUMABLY PROTOCOL WILL DICTATE THAT COURTESY CALL ON PRESIDENT PRECEDES OTHER VISITS. IF PRESIDENT IS IN NORTH, THEN MAROUA-GAROUA AREA OFFERS MOST CONVENIENT POSSIBILITIES. IF HE CE IN YAOUNDE, THEN VISIT EITHER BAMENDA OR DOUALA/BUEA"VICTORIA COMMERCIAL AND TOURISTIC CENTERS OFFER BEST OPPORTUNITIES.

6. I WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS PROJECTED TRIP WITH GURC OFFICIALS AS SOON AS PLANS BECOME MORE DEFINITE, SO I WOULD APPRECIATE BEING KEPT INFORMED.
SMYTHE

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